

# 7

## present continuous (1)

### FORM

#### affirmative

I	<b>am</b> ('m)	
You / We / They	<b>are</b> ('re)	<b>working.</b>
He / She / It	<b>is</b> ('s)	

### spelling rules

Most verbs: add *-ing*.

Verbs ending in *-e*: remove the *-e* and add *-ing*.

Verbs ending in one vowel followed by one consonant:  
double the consonant and add *-ing*.

*work* → *working*   *buy* → *buying*  
*take* → *taking*   *write* → *writing*

*get* → *getting*   *run* → *running*  
(*but open* → *opening*)

Note: *die* → *dying*   *lie* → *lying*

### USE

We use the present continuous to talk about

- things happening now.

*Where's John? In his room. He's **doing** his homework.*

*You're **speaking** too fast for me.*

- temporary activities.

*We're **learning** about trees this week.*

*My brother **is staying** with friends in London until he finds somewhere to live.*

- situations of change.

*The hole in the ozone layer **is getting** bigger.   The number of pupils in the school **is falling**.*

- future arrangements.

*We're **flying** to Spain on a school trip next month.   I'm **seeing** the head teacher after class.*

### present continuous or present simple?

*It **rains** a lot in Scotland.* (habitual situation)

*Put on an anorak. It's **raining**.* (now)

*Scientists **do** experiments to test their theories.* (always true)

*Scientists **are doing** experiments to see if there is life on Mars.* (currently)

*She **speaks** French and German.* (She can speak these languages.)

*Wait a minute, she's **speaking** to someone on her mobile.* (now)

We do not usually use these verbs in the present continuous: *believe, like, hate, prefer, want, depend, love, know, remember, forget, mean, need* and *understand*.

*She **doesn't understand** the formula.* NOT *She **isn't understanding** this formula.*

*Excuse me, what does this mean?* NOT *What **is** this **meaning**?*

**1** Write the *-ing* form of the verb.

- |                         |                  |              |
|-------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| a enjoy <u>enjoying</u> | e play .....     | i stop ..... |
| b hit .....             | f heat .....     | j shut ..... |
| c shoot .....           | g organize ..... | k buy .....  |
| d smoke .....           | h use .....      | l tidy ..... |

**2** Use the prompts to write full sentences.

- a I / eat dinner I am eating dinner.
- b You / do your homework .....
- c She / go to the park .....
- d John and Sven / buy new trainers .....
- e My parents / talk to my teacher .....
- f We / listen to CDs .....
- g He / write a book .....
- h It / rain today .....
- i I / work hard .....

**3** Underline the correct form.

- a I'm happy today. Everything goes / is going well.
- b Just a minute, I can't hear you. I'm listening / I listen to the radio. Let me turn it off.
- c A lot of people speak / are speaking Spanish in the USA.
- d On this space shuttle mission they study / are studying the effects of gravity in space.
- e He is doing / He does his homework now.
- f I'm liking / I like the new sports hall. Do you?
- g Wake up! The teacher is asking / asks you a question.
- h You know / You are knowing my friend Cindy.
- i That's the book I'm reading / I read at the moment.

**4** Use the prompts and a verb from the box to write either present simple or present continuous sentences.

stay do look watch listen know understand

- a I / this question I understand this question.
- b She / to music now .....
- c They / maths homework now .....
- d You / a lot about computers .....
- e Manuela and Sam / TV at the moment .....
- f We / in a hotel near the beach .....
- g I / for Jack. Do you know where he is? .....



# 8

## present continuous (2)

### FORM

#### negative

I	<b>am not</b> ('m not)	
You / We / They	<b>are not</b> ('re not / aren't)	<b>coming.</b>
He / She / It	<b>is not</b> ('s not / isn't)	

#### questions

<b>Am</b>	I	
<b>Are</b>	you / we / they	<b>getting fat?</b>
<b>Is</b>	he / she / it	

#### short answers

	I	am. (not Yes, I'm.)
Yes,	you / we / they	are. (not Yes, you're.)
	he / she / it	is.
	I	'm not.
No,	you / we / they	aren't / 're not.
	he / she / it	isn't / 's not.

### USE

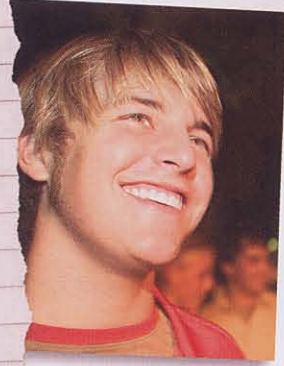
We use present continuous questions to ask about

- things happening now.  
*Are you **going** to the cinema? What **are** your parents **doing**?*
- temporary activities.  
*What **are** you **studying** in class now? Are you **staying** in a hotel?*
- situations of change.  
*Is the weather in your country **getting** hotter? Are people **living** longer?*
- future arrangements.  
*Are you **going** to the party on Friday? Are we **having** a test next lesson?*

We use the negative form of present continuous in the same ways.

*I'm **not listening** to music, I'm **playing** a computer game.  
She's **not staying** in a hotel, she's **staying** with a friend.  
Computers **aren't getting** more expensive, they're **getting** cheaper.  
We're **not going** to the party on Friday.*

07.00 *get up*  
 07.05 *have a shower*  
 07.30 *have breakfast*  
 07.45 *go to school*  
 08.30 *arrive at school*  
 09.00 *start classes*  
 12.30 *have lunch*  
 16.00 *go to football training*  
 19.00 *arrive home and have dinner*  
 19.30 *start homework*  
 21.00 *relax and watch some TV*  
 22.00 *go to bed*



**1** What is John doing now? Look at the information and use the prompts to write present continuous sentences.

a 07.03 / John / get up

*It's 7.03 and John is getting up.*

b 07.10 / he / shower

c 07.35 / he / have / breakfast

d 08.00 / John / go / school

e 09.15 / John and his friends / sit / in class

f 12.45 / he and his friends / have / lunch

g 16.10 / he / play / football

h 22.45 / he / sleep

**2** Now write negative sentences using the prompts.

a 07.05 / he / sleep

*It's 07.05. He isn't sleeping.*

b 08.45 / he / go to school

c 10.00 / John and his friends / do / their homework

d 12.35 / he / have / breakfast

e 15.00 / his team / playing football

f 18.45 / he / have / lunch

g 20.00 / he / watch / TV

h 23.00 / he / do / homework



**3** Use the prompts to make a question. Then write a short answer.

a 07.05 / John / having breakfast ?

*It's 07.05. Is John having breakfast? No, he isn't.*

b 08.00 / he / go to school ?

c 09.30 / he / sit / class ?

d 12.00 / John and his friends / play / football ?

e 12.45 / you / have / lunch ?

f 19.15 / John and his family / have / breakfast ?

g 21.15 / he / relax ?

h 22.30 / you and your family / watch / TV ?

science

**4** What's happening in your body right now?

Use the prompts to write sentences.

a blood / **circulate** / around my body

*Blood is circulating around my body.*

b my heart / **pump** / blood

c my lungs / **absorb** / oxygen

d my diaphragm / move / up and down

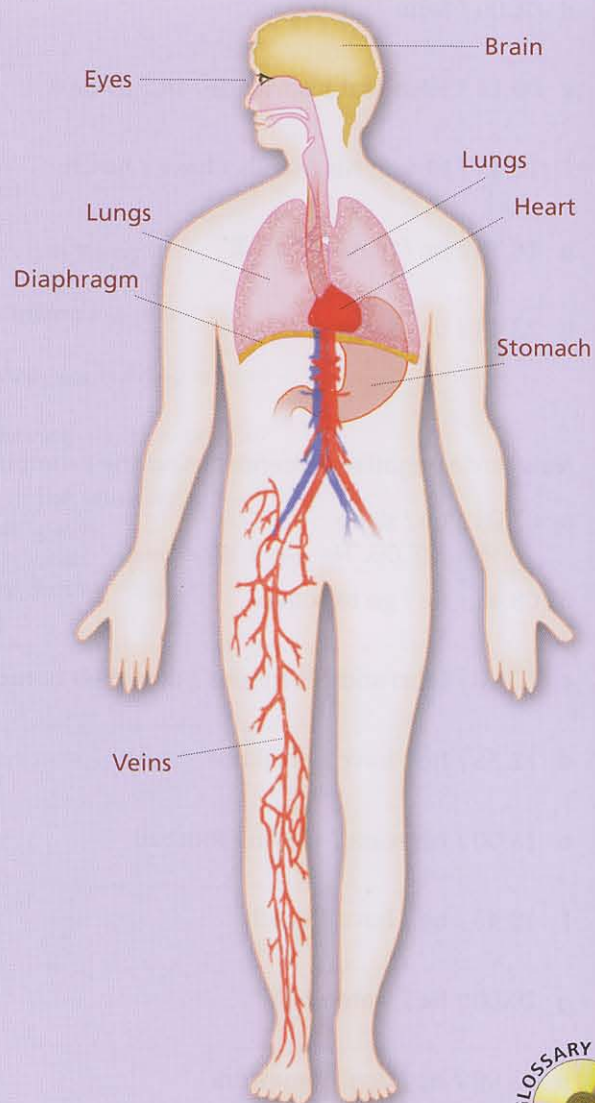
e my heart / **beat**

f my lungs / **produce** / carbon dioxide

g my stomach / **digest** / food

h **chemical reactions** / happen / my cells

i my eyes / send / messages to my brain



5 How is society changing? Put the words in order to make questions. Then write a short answer.

a are taller people getting

Are people getting taller? Yes, they are.

b is getting life expensive more

c more we energy using are

d people going to more university are

e older getting population is the

f getting fewer are people married

g longer are we living

6 Complete the text with the present continuous form of the verbs in the box.

cut get increase cause change melt rise have

### Global warming

Power stations, cars and factories produce carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). Trees and plants change it back to oxygen, but we a *are cutting* down trees in the Amazon rainforests, so the amount of carbon dioxide in the air b ..... The carbon dioxide allows radiation from the sun to enter the atmosphere but not to leave it. This c ..... the atmosphere to heat up.

Scientists think that the polar ice caps and glaciers around the world d ..... This is creating more water and the level of the sea e ..... In many parts of the world there is a possibility of floods on land near the coast. In general, the world's climate f ..... This means warm areas g ..... colder winters, and previously cold areas h ..... warmer.

GLOSSARY

### EXTENSION ACTIVITY

- Write five sentences about things that you are doing at the moment.
- Write five sentences about things that are changing in your country.